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NIAGARA NEWS

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Strike may be avoided

Even if faculty votes in favor of a strike mandate, a strike could still be avoided if union and management negotiators engage in "serious negotiations" before Oct. 18, Barry Sharpe, vice-president of the faculty union, said.

Faculty at Niagara and across the province voted yesterday, but results were not known at press time.

If there is a strike, the earliest it can take place is on Oct. 18, but the union is prepared to return to the bargaining table as early as today. "If management is willing,"Mr. Sharpe said.

However, "If there are no serious negotiations before the 18th the strike will take place, as we would have no option."

There were 264 full-time and about 40 partial-load faculty members who were eligible to vote.

TO BE RATIFIED

An agreement between support staff workers from Ontario's 22 community colleges and the Council of Regents reached earlier this month has yet to be ratified. Support staff represented by the Ontairo Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) will receive six per cent wage increases in each of the next two years if they ratify the pact.

"There was very little done about job security which was the main issue," Meg Rose, president of the college local, said. Support staff voted two weeks ago to reject the earlier contract offer, but the strike vote was about 50-50.

Ontario's 8,800 college teacher rejected the contract offer last May with about 90 per cent voting no.

"The main reasons for rejecting the contract offer are lack of job security, salary benefits and there is a lot of concern about the cumulative sick leave plan which may disappear," Mr. Sharpe said.

The last faculty staff strike occurred in 1984; it lasted for 17 days before strikers were legisalted back to work. Students did not miss their year as classes were extended into May.

Inside the News

Fine Arts Centre — Students speak out against "deplorable" and "unsafe" conditions at Empire Street.

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Hans Miethig — "Canada has been good to me," Czech-born teacher says.

See pg. 6

Outstanding Educator Award to Niagara's Hans Miethig

By VIRGIL KLASSEN
Staff Writer

For the first time a Canadian has been selected to receive a prestigious American award for excellent teaching — and he is Hans Miethig of Niagara College.

Mr. Miethig, co-ordinator of the Construction Engineering Technology-Architecture program, has been selected to receive the American Society for Engineering Education's Outstanding Educator Award — St. Lawrence Section.

He is receiving the award today at the association's fall meeting in Binghamton, N.Y.

The Outstanding Educator Award is presented annually for excellence in the instruction of engineering, engineering technology or engineering science. It consists of a $1,500 honorarium and a plaque.

Mr. Miethig was the unanimous choice for the award, Louis J. Galbiati, chairman of the ASEE, St. Lawrence Section, said. The section consists of all the technical colleges and universities in Ontario and Quebec and a large portion of New York State.

BY COLLEAGUES

People are nominated by their colleagues, and the selection committee makes the choice using a wide range of criteria having to do with teaching attributes and professional contributions.

The Outstanding Educator Award was established in 1985 to honor the recipient and to serve as an incentive to make further contributions to teaching. Mr. Galbiati said the award was established for colleges with two- and three-year programs because these colleges and the people in them had never been properly recognized before.

HANS MIETHIG

One of the main reasons this award was established was to instil more professional pride in the community college system. There is one other ASEE award for universities with four-year engineering programs, and there is much greater participation and interest in this category, Mr. Galbiati said.

"Something is not quite right," Mr. Galbiati said. "I think it's a bit of a disgrace that colleges don't think more of their programs and people."

See Page 6
for Miethig profile

Mr. Galbiati said members of the ASEE have travelled to Niagara College, and the ASEE has met with delegations from the college in the past few years.

"We're very impressed with your institution," Mr. Galbiati said.

College in poor health

By SHELLEY SOUTHCOTT
Staff Writer

Health services at Niagara College are worse than they were last year, the College Council was told on Tuesday. The coucil moved to recommend again to Jacqueline Robarts, college president, that the nurse be re-instated.

The statement was made by Lou Orr, co-ordinator of Ontario Basic Skills and part of the council's subcommittee which studied health services last year.

There is nothing for students in the way of health services at the college, Mrs. Orr said.

"Last year, at least there was a doctor's clinic...so not only have we lost the nurse, we've lost the clinic," Mrs. Orr said.

Hans van der Slagt, vice-president of administration, told Council that since there had been no response to tenders put out by the college for a doctor at the clinic, the college would now approach the situation on an individual basis.

He was referring to "more particularly young physicians who have moved to this area recently and are attempting to establish a practice."

AT BOARD REQUEST

The medical services were tendered at the request of the Board of Governors, Bette Ferguson, director of student services, told Council. Before that time, there had been an informal arrangement with the doctor in charge to provide for the clinic and do his own OHIP billing.

"Initially with the first tender we requested them to offer us something for the use of this space (the clinic)," Mrs. Ferguson said. "The second time out we said we would provide the space and the still would do their own billing." No applications were submitted.

For the college to begin compliance with the Workers' Compensation Board Act, first aid stations must be manned by trained volunteers.

There are no names posted of trained volunteers to man the station. Mr. van der Slagt said if the college was not able to rely on staff volunteers, it would always be in violation of the act unless it hired a nurse for every campus.

$100,000 FINE

A high incidence of compensation claims has brought the college close to a $100,000 fine, Meg

See "Health" p. 12

Parking cheaper at Niagara

By SCOTT TRACEY
Staff Writer

As Niagara College students complain about the new paid parking policy, they should compare college rates to those at other Ontario post-secondary institutions.

Instead of Niagara's $40 per year rates, students at Brock University pay $160 per year. Also, illegal parkers at Brock will pay more than a $5 fine. Parking in a reserved parking area without a permit costs a $10 ticket and an $80 tow, Al Pedler, director of administration services at Brock, said.

Mr.Pedler said when he visited Niagara College this week, he left his car in one of the lots and when he returned 20 minutes later, had a ticket for $5. "I just had to laugh. I played the odds and I lost."

A one-year pass at Centennial College in Scarborough costs $56 while a one-year pass at Hamilton's Mohawk College costs a comparable $65.

PER DIEM

If Niagara's rate of $40 is broken down, it is about 27 cents a day. Humber College's works out to $2 a day. At George Brown's Casa Loma campus, where no year passes are available, students pay $4 every single day.

One thing common to all these institutions is illegal parking. All of Toronto's colleges have problems because of a work-to-rule campaign by the Toronto Transit Commission, Medury Singh, director of campus services at Humber College, said.

Although parking at Humber is"not great," booths "eliminate illegal parking," Mrs. Singh said. By having security guards working the parking booths at the college, no cars can get in without showing a parking sticker.

Oshawa's Durham College had problems with illegal parking at first, but after that, there were no more problems.

First-aid certificates

Dr. Tony Knowles, vice-president of academics, presented Hans van der Slagt, vice-president of administration, with his first aid certificate. Mr. van der Slagt and 22 other faculty members received the certificates Oct. 2.

Photo by Sheila McBrayne

Auto repair co-op at Wellandvale

A new automobile repair program has just begun at the St. Catharines campus of Niagara College.

The Automotive Services Program has taken over half of the area occupied by the welding program. The automotive area has been put together in the past six weeks, and it is beginning to look like a professional operation, with lots of cars and diagnostic equipment about.

The program is funded by the Canadian Employment Centres through the Niagara Peninsula Industry Education Council (NPIEC). It is an introductory course which teaches the basics of the automotive service industry.

It used to be run out of area high schools. Randy Carbone, automotive instructor for the program, believes the switch to the St. Catharines campus is a big improvement. There are 21 students in the present class.

The course is 28 weeks long; this year it runs from Sept.18 to March 30. Students are on training allowances and must be in class every day from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

It is a co-operative program. Each student is matched with a host company in the automotive service industry. Throughout the course, the students alternate their time between the college and the host company, which treats them as employees.

For the first two weeks, students spent all their time in the classroom, learning the basics. For the next 12 weeks, they spend four days in class and one day with their company. The nine weeks after that, it's two days a week in class and three days with the company. In the final five weeks, students spend all their time working at the company.

Many students end up working for the host company full-time when the course is over, Mr. Carbone said. Most of these graduates obtain apprenticeships in Ontario's Motor Vehicle Mechanic program.

"We have a good rapport with industry because they know the students have the groundwork," Mr. Carbone said. "In the last class everyone got jobs at their host company."

People from the auto industry come in to the college to teach, and the classes tour local facilities as part of the course. Mr. Carbone, who was in the automotive trade for many years, works closely with the host companies, which include local automobile dealerships, independent garages and service stations.

In addition to learning mechanical skills while they are in class, the students take academic upgrading courses like math and English, computer courses and welding. All are tailored to the automotive trade, Mr. Carbone said.

Students also take life skills courses, and Mr. Carbone teaches them to be responsible. While they're at school or with their host companies, they must show up on time — no excuses.

"Industry is crying for graduates," Mr. Carbone said. "If I had 50, I could place them in the Golden Horseshoe."

Odyssey to Greece planned

Brian Keppy, a Niagara College instructor, is offering a trip to Greece during Spring Break to expose students to a different culture.

Mr. Keppy is hoping a minimum of 30 people will pay the $1,200 fee by the end of this term, to go to Greece at the end of February. Thirty people are needed because "that's how we calculated it out and kept the price low." If there are significantly fewer people, the trip will not go. Mr. Keppy said there is no limit to the number. "If 50 people sign up that's fine with me."

A planned trip to Greece last year was unsuccessful because of a lack of participants. It was about $500 more expensive than this year's trip.

The itinerary will span nine or 10 days. Although it is shorter than last year's proposed trip of 12 days, "it's cheaper and more is included," Mr. Keppy said.

The trip includes hotel accommodation, most meals, a one-day cruise of the islands of Egina, Poros and Hydra, and tours of Athens and all the area around it. The cost covers everything but insurance which is $49 extra and strongly recommended.

Although he has arranged a lot of tours on this trip, Mr. Keppy tried to leave some free time. "I think it should be part relaxation, too. You want to see stuff but you also want to be able to relax for your March break."

"One of the advantages this year is that you don't have to come up with $1,200. You can put down a fairly small deposit and give him (the travel agent) a series of post-dated cheques. That way there are a lot more people that can go. I know there are a lot of people who just don't have $1,200, who want to go," Mr. Keppy said. "I'm not advocating people rush out and sign their soul away."

"It would seem to me that if we can't get 30 people around here then there's a lot of apathy about getting any culture at all. A lot of high schools put on European trips every year. If a high school can do that surely we should be able to get 30 people together out of our huge student body."

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Dr. Henderson wins Flare fantasy

By LISA CHOMA
Staff Writer

Dr. Ted Henderson, dental consultant to the Dental Assistant Program, has beaten the odds by winning a $10,000 grand prize from one of Canada's most prestigious magazines.

Sponsored by Flare Magazine, the contest was open to renewing subscribers. What is "odd" about it is that Dr. Henderson falls within the two per cent of male population who subscribe to the magazine.

"I had to stop and think for a moment how I did it, and I really didn't believe it," he said. "It was only after I received a second call that I learned I had not only won a prize, but that I had won the grand prize."

Since the prize involved ladies' fashion and accessories, Dr. Henderson decided to split the prize among his wife, three daughters, and daughter-in-law.

"The officials at Flare were hysterical; in fact, they were flabbergasted!" Dr. Henderson said.

Prizes included in the Flare Fashion Fantasy Contest included a fashion makeover, a tour of the facilities at Flare Magazine, and luncheon with the Manager of The Eaton Centre and Publisher of Flare.

In addition, a model and fashion consultant met Dr. Henderson and his family to supervise as a consultant, and to assist them in shopping for the right items.

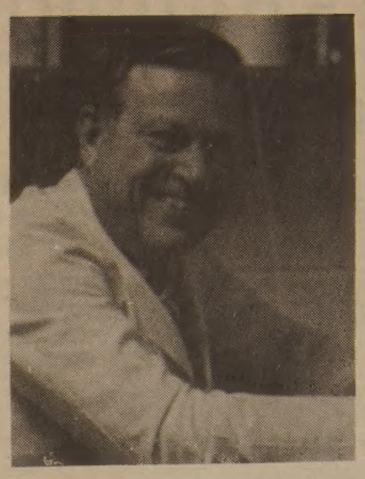
He said all the people involved bent over backwards to be helpful with every detail, including accommodating everyone's schedule.

"We felt honored for winning, and they were very gracious about the whole thing," Dr. Henderson said.

Flare is a high fashion magazine aimed at the 25 to 40-year age group. "There are not many ladies' fashion magazines, and in my reception room I look for quality literature. It is an excellent magazine, with a variety of articles. I am very impressed with it."

Dr. Henderson and his family went to Toronto on Oct. 4 to receive their prize. It was the first contest of this magnitude he has won.

"They (Flare Magazine) took a lot of pictures of everyone," Dr. Henderson said. "Everyone was pleased."



DR. TED HENDERSON

Land talks continue

By KGABO MODIBEDI
Staff Writer

Niagara College will continue discussions with Welland Council on how some acres of campus property can be used to generate revenue to bail out the college from its budget deficit.

Last week the city turned down a college proposal to sell 11 acres of its campus property either for possible development or use as a new headquarters for the Welland detachment of the Niagara Regional Police.

The 11 acres are at the northeast corner of Woodlawn and Rice Roads.

Hans van der Slagt, vice-president of administration, said one of the things that came up in the discussions was the possibility of a recreational sports complex which would be beneficial to both the city and the college.

"As part of that, it was our recommendation to the city that they consider buying land from us or at least leasing it from us and thereby providing some funding to the college to pay up the deficit."

FOR RESIDENCES

The college is suggesting four acres of the land be used for students residences and the other seven for recreational purposes by the city.

"That would be the ideal solution; we get some money, the city gets a recreational complex and our students get access to the recreational complex," Mr. van der Slagt said. "But that requires a major commitment of resources on the part of the city. I don't know if they're prepared to do that."

A report by the planning and development committee of the city said by selling off lands, the Board of Governors could be impending future expansion. "The proposal to sell or develop college lands for other than college uses by private developers is not in the best interests of the community." However, the committee supported the proposal for student housing.

Members of the planning and development committee opposed a new police building at the site saying, "The nature of police activity is not in keeping with the atmosphere found in the heart of a residential area."

The selling or developing of the 11 acres is one of the alternatives considered by the college to attack the deficit now $700,000. Other measures included cutting back on services and some programs.

BEST RETURN

Mr. van der Slagt said the college brought in a consultant who looked at the land and recommended that a combination of a small commercial and residential developments on the 11 acres would provide the largest financial return to the college.

The college prepared a "call-for-proposal" with the consultants recommendation. "That has been prepared in draft form and we had the ministry and the city of Welland review this document and provide their comments," Mr. van der Slagt said.

"We'll continue our discussions with the city; we'll not at the moment go out for a call-for-proposal until those discussions have gone a bit further."

Casual Care now open

Niagara College Early Childhood Centre opened a new hourly day care program to members of the community early this fall.

Casual Care is different from the existing day care programs because it is based on an hourly rate, rather than the normal half-day rate or full rate.

Only costing $4 an hour, Casual Care makes sense to student-mothers who come to the college for only one class in the day. "It allows mothers to drop off their children before a class and pick them up later," said Amelia Szczykatowicz, ECC manager. Mothers have access to short-term qualified care without spending excessive sums on babysitting that is not always available.

Mrs. Szczykatowicz said that Casual Care has existed discreetly for a couple of years at the college, but it is only this year that the ECC decided to go public with its new program. With more mothers taking part-time courses at the college, it was important to address the needs of this group. However, Mrs. Szczykatowicz made it clear that the service is for everyone.

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Student fee to help fund

Student Centre construction may begin in April

By GOLEKANYE MOLAPISI
Staff Writer

Construction of the proposed Student Centre may begin next April and should be ready for use in September.

Bette Ferguson, director of student services, said full details about the centre will be submitted to the Board of Governors in November for final approval. The Student Centre was approved in principle last spring by the administrative affairs commmittee of the board.

Architects have been invited to submit their proposals to the board on Oct. 31. The centre is to be built between the Black Walnut and Simcoe buildings.

The proposed student centre will be partly funded from SAC funds. "They have a considerable amount in their trust fund," Mrs. Ferguson said.

The centre will cost $800,000. The balance will be paid by profit made at pubs and through registration fees, which this year include a $25 Student Centre Fee.

The Student Centre was the major project of last year's SAC president, Randy Conlon.

BETTER FOR STUDENTS

Jim Acsai, this year's president, said the centre will help SAC to make money. "It will be better for students." SAC is proposing to have a "well ventilated smoking area" in the centre.

It is to be built in two phases; the first phase will consist of a licensed lounge, a recreational area and a food services area which is still to be negotiated.

The second phase is to be an addition to the first one and will include SAC offices and an on-campus bank. Mrs. Ferguson said the building of the second phase will go ahead if the operation of the first one is successful. The centre will be able to accommodate 300 to 400 people.

Board says no more cuts

Niagara College has stated it does not plan to cancel any more programs and "will pursue any and all avenues to overcome underfunding," in its annual report to the Minister of Colleges and Universities.

The 1988 report was sent to Sean Conway, Minister of Colleges and Universities, in late September, Jacqueline Robarts, college president, said.

The Board of Governors is aware that present college funding will be less than necessary and has asked for a meeting with Mr. Conway.

NEED SUPPORT

"We feel we've been efficient and effective," Miss Robarts said. "If the government wants these colleges, they have to support them.

"In the past fiscal year(1988-89), 18 of the 22 colleges had to take money out of their reserves or go into deficit." Some colleges are able to stay out of a deficit situation because they have more reserve funds.

Niagara College was the first college in Ontario to go into a deficit situation.

Special needs busy this year

By ANN RADICS
Staff Writer

Since its opening last fall, the special needs office has seen both student accomplishment and has been "a learning experience," Caroline Nelson, special needs assistant, said.

The program has had 135 students referred in its first year compared to about 270 students at Humber College, which has at least 4,000 more students than Niagara College, Victoria Maugain, special needs counsellor, said.

"We have a busier start this year," Ms. Maugain said, "there are a lot more students referred to the office."

The office has seen a number of students receive help, Ms. Maugain said. However, even before an office was available, students with special needs were able to graduate from the college. The success depends largely on the students with the help of the office.

"We assist only if the students allow us to help. It's the students' motivation that brings success," Ms. Maugain said.

The office has various types of equipment ranging from the telephone device for the deaf(TDD), which allows communication for deaf persons and makes it possible to contact the college, to keyboard shields, a piece of plastic with key holes cut in it to help students whose coordination does not allow them to hit the keys accurately.

Other conveniences have been installed so students can work. Tables are raised to accommodate students in wheelchairs; a system which allows housebound students to hear lectures, called the duo-phone, is set up between the school and the student; and Kermit, a computer program which allows one computer to communicate with another, allows students to take tests.

Before the office opened, students had to rely on themselves and the help of student services. Here the student was provided with counselling and agencies who could help them.

The office is funded by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities, Ms. Maugain said. She worked at the futures program in Welland before becoming special needs counsellor.

"The college is now required to retrofit facilities to accommodate handicapped students," Ms. Maugain

Some services the office provides are scribes, notetakers, tapes and tape recorders for lectures, counselling, print enlarging and more.

Agencies also help, advising the office on particular requirements. These include Vocational Rehabilitation Services, the Canadian National Institution for the Blind, the Canadian Hearing Society, the Canadian Mental Health Society, the Welland Association for Community Living, the March of Dimes, and the the Office for Disabled Persons in Toronto.

Students who wish to contact the office can visit Lundy 7 between 8:30 and 4:30 or call Ms. Maugain at 735-2211 ext. 496.

The success of the students is a wonderful achievement for the counsellors to see. They praise their students and share in their accomplishments.

"We're always telling them 'Gee, you're courageous'. They usually respond with 'I'm tired of hearing that,'" Mrs. Nelson said.

Editorials

Smokers fuming

Need compromise

There is anger and frustration among the Niagara College smoking community. Their discontent at being denied a place where they can smoke is not entirely unrealistic. It seems that when the administration decided to adopt a smoke-free environment policy, they were swayed by emotions rather than by the pragmatics of the situation. The move has boomeranged and now they have to contend with a number of problems.

First, they were caught off guard when smokers started crowding doorways taking a puff. It was not until the entrances were littered with cigarette butts — so much so that a visitor to the college commented that the place resembles a pigsty — that some garbage bins were put up.

Secondly, with the chilly winter days fast approaching, smokers will certainly not go outside for a smoke: they will definitely not quit smoking and it is everybody's guess where they will turn to- the washrooms? In fact, they have already started.

It is obvious that the administration when adopting this policy, commendable as it is, has not forseen these problems. However, it is not disgraceful or too late to admit that the policy is not entirely feasible.

Ideas should not be followed dogmatically, but should be subject to change when the need arises.

Bome Matshaba

Parking problems

The complaints continue

Wandering the halls of Niagara College, one is bound to hear several complaints about the college's new paid parking policy. The complaints centre on three main issues: being forced to pay for parking, getting caught parking illegally and other people not getting caught parking illegally.

If your gripe is actually having to pay for parking, consider this: there are about 150 school days per year. A parking pass costs $40. Therefore you pay 27 cents per day to park your car. The average college student should be able to afford 27 cents a day.

People who complain about getting caught parking illegally should do one thing; stop parking illegally. Someone who can successfully complete high school and get accepted by a post-secondary institution should be able to park a car between two lines. By the way, Niagara, NO PARKING means you are not to leave a vehicle stationary in this area. Oh, and if you think you qualify for handicapped parking, get a sticker.

If you are complaining about people parking illegally and not getting caught, keep it up. Maybe if enough people complain about lawbreakers, something can be done to bring justice back to Niagara College's parking lots.

Scott Tracey

Letters to the editor

It takes two to 'slam dance'

Dear Editor,

In a letter published in the last edition of the Niagara News, SAC President Jim Acsai noted that college faculty across Ontario will vote next week [letter is dated Oct.2] to determine whether or not to give their negotiating team a mandate to call a strike on Oct.18. Students should be concerned about the possibility of a strike this fall. They should also be aware of the issues involved.

College faculty have been attempting to negotiate a new contract with college management since last January. The management negotiating team represents a group called the Committee of College Presidents — pretty much a self-explanatory term. Jim ended his letter by asking the teachers to "THINK ABOUT YOUR STUDENTS." It occurs to me that he might have concluded with

COME ON,COLLEGE PRESIDENTS, THINK ABOUT YOUR STUDENTS.

It used to take two to tango. I would guess it also takes two to "slam dance".

That, a bit obtusely perhaps, is point number one. Should a strike occur it is overly simplistic to blame it on the teachers, counsellors and librarians in the college system.

There are two priority issues in this round of negotiations. Job security is a key faculty demand. This past year there were teachers with up to 21 years seniority facing the threat of layoff because of underfunding and program cancellations. College faculty are not asking for the tenure system that the majority of university professors enjoy but we believe we have the right to protection through the seniority system and to retraining.

Many faculty abandoned careers in the private sector and other institutions to bring their expertise and skills to the classrooms, shops, clinics and labs at Niagara College. They have earned the right to be secure in their positions. Improved job security will enable them to do a better job — day to day — for their students. Job insecurity is the single, most important cause of job-related stress.

Faculty are also seeking significant salary improvements. The issue is really very simple. College faculty now have a salary/benefit package lower than any high school or elementary teacher in the province.

I believe that the community college system is seriously underfunded. A major contributing factor, in my view, is that the Goverment of Ontario undervalues the college system, college students and college teachers. Many faculty members see this issue not so much as a question of dollars and cents but as a question of respect.

Students should be concerned about the possibility of a strike but they should also be aware that a strike will not cause them to lose their year. A faculty strike lasted 17 days in 1984 and the academic year was completed successfully. Students at Niagara today are the direct beneficiaries of that strike. The issue then was Quality Education — recognition of the time teachers needed to prepare courses, to evaluate students and provide feedback, limits on class size and overtime.

Should a strike occur, I expect the faculty will once again be legislated back to work before the school year is placed in jeopardy. Legally, the College Relations Commission has an obligation to so advise the Minister of Education and the Minister will take action.

Students who have been full-time participants in the labor force know that strikes are part of the realilty of modern labor relations. Many students when they graduate will enjoy higher wages and better benefits because most workers in this province have the right to strike.

Teachers do not want to strike. Our place is in the classroom. Our commitment is to our students, not just those at Niagara this year but those who will be here in the future as well. It is because of our concern for the long-term health of the college system that we went on strike last time, and we must and will vote strike in 1989.

What can students do? First, don't despair. You won't lose your year. You can tell the Ontario government through your MPP that you want them to fund your college adequately. (Ontario's education funding per capita is now lowest of all the provinces.) You can organize with other student bodies to strengthen your voice. You can demand the respect of the government that is your due as students of a post-secondary institution.

If you feel like a pawn — caught up in a process that you can't control — recognize that the faculty have similar feelings. University Presidents are going to the government and to the media demanding more dollars to enhance quality education in their institutions — and they are getting results. But College Presidents are not. Their strategy seems to be to have the faculty put pressure on the government by threatening to go on strike. The Committee of College Presidents may, in fact, force us to go out on strike before they act. I sincerely hope not, and I know my colleagues feel the same. But we are prepared to do what we must do.

Barry Sharpe,
Vice-president,
OPSEU Local 242,
Niagara College Faculty.

Decries conditions at centre

Dear Editor,

I am writing to you as a concerned student who belongs to the Fine Arts Program. I am in my second year and was here when Empire Street first opened.

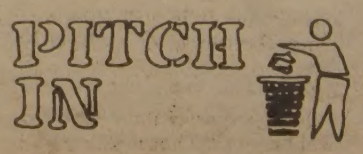
Among the mess and debris left by the Theatre Arts students we attempted to have classes. It took well over two weeks before we could even sit in our lounge. The students did most of the painting and other work themselves. I am not disappointed with the experience, but I am disappointed that a good part of my college education has suffered.

The worst part of the whole mess is that below the Fine Arts article in the previous Niagara News, is an article on the "New Falls" campus. They've just received state-of-the-art equipment; half of the students here don't even have a desk with a light bulb.

One of the students complained about needing a bus. I myself used to drive five or six people back and forth from Empire Street to the main campus, since we had classes at both. Well, at least that has been taken care of.

In closing, I'd just like to add art students are people, too — even though we don't bake or learn how to manage a hotel.

Robin Fraser
President of the SAC
Empire Street



Niagara News

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The Niagara News is a practical lab for the Journalism-Print program, covering the college community and other areas of interest. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the management of the Niagara News or the administration of Niagara College.

FOCUS

Tranquillity abounds at Beamer

By SHELLEY SOUTHCOTT
Staff Writer

The morning is fresh as the sun shines down through the canopy of russet colored leaves, and dances across the clear water in diamonds of bright light.

Underfoot the twigs snap crisply, and the stream gurgles as it meanders past and drops out of sight around the next bend. A woodpecker taps out its morning meal and off in another part of the woods, laughter is carried easily across the clear pine-scented morning air.

It gives one a feeling of peace although it is only minutes from the busy traffic flow on the QEW. This is Beamer Conservation Area, located atop the Niagara escarpment in Grimsby.

The Niagara Region offers many such places of beauty and tranquillity for the enjoyment of those who would like to "get away from it all" but haven't the time to travel long distances in search of a respite from the hustle and bustle of daily living.

Although Beamer is a lovely area at any time of year, the fall with its changing colors enriches the area with breath-taking colors and enhances the awe-inspiring views.

Nature enthusiasts, hikers, walkers, and photographers greet each other warmly.

To catch a glimpse of the sometimes elusive wildlife of Beamer one must arrive early in the morning. The presence of human beings and the ever-growing popularity of the area make it difficult to see a fox or racoon at any other time of day.

The animals are alerted to the sound of ungainly passers-by and scurry for cover long before the person is aware of their presence.

A red-tailed hawk lazily circling above in search of a distracted field mouse is a common sight. There is much here for the avid ornithologist, from the common sparrow and robin to the killdeer and pheasant.

The flora of Beamer are not to be missed either. The best time of course is spring. The woods are strewn with trilliums, growing in large clusters at the base of trees. Spring violets grow in profusion all over the area, a nice contrast to the thick green carpets of grass covering Beamer.

On this morning the most industrious creature in Beamer is the squirrel busily preparing for the harsh winter ahead. Scampering ahead of you, he stops to turn and scold you for interrupting his foraging.

The chill is lifting as the late-morning sun's rays penetrate the forest. More people are coming, too, to enjoy the season's last few days of warmth and sunshine.

Soon the trees will be barren, the green just a memory, as winter covers the landscape with a blanket of snow.

People will still visit Beamer at this time of year, however, because there is beauty in nature in every season, and soon the swooshing of cross country skis and the cold wind howling through the dead branches of the trees will be all that is heard.

Pleasant place for a quiet walk

Photo by Shelley Southcott

Triskaideka...what?

By TONY POST
Staff Writer

If you are a triskaidekaphobe you know what today is; that's right, it's Friday the 13th. Triskaidekaphobes, people with a fear of the number 13, are only a fraction of the large number of people who have certain beliefs that are unjustified by reason or evidence. These beliefs are called superstitions.

Historically though, many superstitions stem from and are strengthened by actual events.

The belief that Friday the 13th brings bad luck stems from Biblical times. Jesus was crucified on a Friday. Before he died he was one of 13 people at the last supper.

If you fear 13 you are not alone. Enough Americans skip work or cancel travel plans on the 13th each month to set the economy back $1 million every year, according to a 1982 estimate.

Superstitious people are always on the lookout for signs to bolster their beliefs. A train accident in 1892 in which the most deaths occurred in wagon 13 seemed to prove the 13 theory. When the Apollo 13 mission was scrapped by NASA, not even the proven world of science seemed immune from superstition.

It's odd however, that evidence to the contrary is often disregarded. When a British passenger ferry sank with 253 people on board, the only survivor was the occupant of cabin 13.

This superstition has manifested itself in the everyday. Many high rise buildings don't have a 13th storey.

Fear of the number 13 is only one of many superstitions. In the 1800s when witches and evil spirits abounded, people resorted to all sorts of means to dispel them.

One common belief was that mistletoe repelled witches. This belief stemmed from a study by Sir James George Frazer, a Scottish social anthropologist and author of The Golden Bough, which shows that mistletoe grows mainly on the oak tree and that oaks are struck by lightning more often than other types of trees. Mistletoe was therefore credited with having magical properties.

Although we still use mistletoe today as part of our Christmas celebrations, we no longer think of it as being magic. However, one plant that has kept its mystique throughout the ages is the four-

leaf clover. It is still thought to bring good luck, or at least prevent bad luck, to those who find one.

Other superstitions have practical benefits. That walking under a ladder brings bad luck may be truer than you think. For the offender there exists a real danger of emerging with a bucket of paint spilled on his head. This superstition originates from the ancient belief that triangles are a symbol of bad fortune. The ladder leaning against the wall forms a triangle with the ground.

Today, triangles are used in traffic signs to warn drivers to use caution.

Most people have some supersitions: from rubbing a lucky rabbit's foot — which, stragely enough didn't bring the rabbit much luck — to complex formulas for picking lottery numbers. But not to worry, superstitions are not limited to the common man.

Wayne Gretzky believes that tucking the right side of his jersey behind his hip pad brings him good luck. Marvin Johnson, three time light heavyweight champion, never washed in the 24 hours before a fight; now that's a strong superstition.

Although for some people superstitions are a philosophy to live by, most of us look on these beliefs with a certain amount of humor. They seem like nothing more than silly human quirks.

It has never been proved that Friday the 13th brings bad luck; but then again, it's never been disproved either.

Secondary students visit Explore Niagara

In a move to attract prospective students, the college has sent invitations to all 49 secondary schools in the Niagara peninsula for the Explore Niagara day on Oct. 25.

College classes will continue normally. "The highlight is that secondary school students will see the college in action with classes going on, but they will go to the areas they are most interested in to ask their questions and talk to students and teachers," Fred Habermehl, executive dean, said.

Unlike the spring open house, Explore Niagara is primarily for secondary school students. "There is no problem with having mature students come as well; it is just that the invitation has gone out to the secondary schools."

The college is shouldering transportation expenses. The schools will arrange for their own transportation, but will send the college their bills. Mr. Habermehl said it will cost about $1,500.

The schools will also send the college a list of names and addresses of students who will be coming.

The students will be at the college between 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Faculty members receive first-aid certificates

Twenty-three college faculty members were presented with first-aid certificates in the Tecumseh Lounge Oct.2.

Hans van der Slagt, vice-president of administration, presented the first-aid certificates to those who completed the program. The Emergency Care Instruction Services, Toronto, held a two-day program on Aug.16 and 17 at Niagara College.

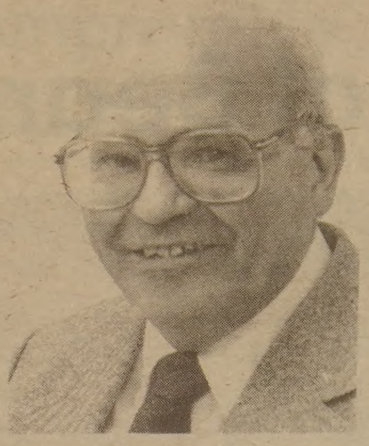
Dr. Tony Knowles, vice-president of academics, presented Mr. van der Slagt with his certificate. "It's something everyone should have," Dr. Knowles said.

Receiving certificates were; Robert Baddeley, Dianne Burtis, Nancy Cain, Rosemary Cawthorn, Tino Della Valle, Darcy Ewanchuk, A. Ferguson, Bette Ferguson, Sandy Fox, Gary Guzda, Ann Houtby, David Lawrence, Ivar Noren, Michel Parent, John Parrett, Glenn Pevere, Elaine Spark, William Taylor, E.L. Thompson, Gloria Ursacki, Mr. van der Slagt, Gail Wickenden and Foster Zanutto.

"We're trying to aim for a point where all of our faculty is trained," Mr. van der Slagt said. "This is the first in a series of doing so." He hopes to offer the same training program to faculty again this fall.

Hans Miethig thankful for the opportunity to teach

By VIRGIL KLASSEN
Staff Writer



The first time Hans Miethig heard anything about the ASEE Outstanding Educator Award was when he came back to his office from the classroom to find a message asking him to call a Lou Galbiati about some "good news."

To Mr. Miethig, good news usually means a job for his Construction Engineering Tecnology-Architecture students. Many of his former students are Italian and have their own construction firms so Mr. Miethig called Mr. Galbiati to hear the good news.

When Mr. Galbiati, chairman of the American Society for Engineering Education — St. Lawrence Section, told him of the award he had just won, Mr. Miethig was so surprised he didn't really hear the rest of the conversation.

It seems fitting that a man who thanks this country for giving him the opportunity to help young people should learn about his award in this way. Mr. Miethig is the first Canadian to receive this award.

"This country has been good to me," Mr. Miethig said. "I was allowed to do what my own country did not allow me to do."

Greatest Ambition

Mr. Miethig's greatest ambition has always been to be a teacher.

Mr. Miethig came to Niagara College in 1968 as a teacher. In 1969 he was given the task of developing a new program, and he has been the co-ordinator of Construction Engineering Technology-Architecture ever since.

Mr. Miethig was born in Czechoslovakia 64 years ago. As a young man, he went to teachers' college, but the Second World War interfered with his plans, and he was drafted into the German army.

After the war, Mr. Miethig went to Germany as a refugee, with all his worldly possessions in the knapsack on his back. His dream was still to teach, and after finding the papers which proved he was a qualified teacher, he was notified by the new government that they would not recognize his credentials.

With no money, and very little else, Mr. Miethig looked around him at all the destruction and decided there was opportunity in the construction industry. He apprenticed as a bricklayer, and after getting his journeyman bricklayer papers, he decided to try the teaching avenue again.

He went to engineering school in Germany and became a civil engineer there. As soon as he graduated, he came to Canada in 1955 to visit his parents. They had emigrated to Canada with the sponsorship of Mr. Miethig's uncle and aunt in St. Catharines.

That summer he worked in an engineering consultant's job in Niagara Falls. He was immediately impressed with the friendliness and tolerance in this country, and he decided to stay. He wrote to his wife in Germany, convincing her to come to Canada. The Miethigs have made this country home ever since.

"This is not a job — this is a mission," Mr. Miethig said of his college co-ordinator's position. When he set up the Construction Engineering Technology-Architecture program, he worked closely with industry to find what the construction people needed. He has always spent a lot of time making sure the program is up to date by going out to the field.

"I find it more important that I spend some time with industry," Mr. Miethig said. "If my classroom work suffers, students can live with it."

But the classroom work has little time to suffer. Mr. Miethig admits to spending 80 to 84 hours per week making sure that the quality stays in his program. Part of this time is spent teaching, of course — he still teaches as much as the other teachers in the program — but that is only part of his mission.

"Even my fellow teachers wouldn't believe my hours," Mr. Miethig said. Much of his work is taking students' assignments home and checking the students' work — line by line — and adding his comments to each student's work.

"It's the only way to get quality."

Leading Edge

His efforts have put the three-year program on the leading edge of the construction industry in the Niagara Peninsula and have given his graduates recognition throughout the country.

Graduates of the program have been able to join associations like the Ontario Institute of Quantity Surveyors. Ninety per cent of the OIQS members are from England where this profession is learned in a four-year course. Mr. Miethig has made it possible for his students to join this association by writing a single exam — instead of the 22 normally required.

This will be Mr. Miethig's last year at Niagara College. What does he plan to do in his retirement?

"Rest!"

Mr. Miethig said his most enjoyable time has been spent making personal contact with the students and helping them with their individual concerns. That combined with his other teaching and co-ordinating duties have kept Mr. Miethig busy and happy.

"I have fulfilled my ambitions."

Mr. Miethig has always been interested in photography and music, and now he is hooked on computers. Starting next year he hopes to have time to pursue these interests.

"Canada has given me the chance to do what I wanted to do."

Hotel Club helps students, school spirit alive and well

The Hotel Club at the Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls has a lot to offer students this year.

The club is operated by students for students. For a membership fee of $10 students receive discounts at various restaurants and a free YMCA membership.

Pubs, held at the Dunn Street campus, raise money to help fund other activities such as the Hotel Club bowling league. A talent night is also being planned.

The new campus, replacing the small building at the Rainbow Gardens Centre, opened in September. Because of the move, school spirit is alive and well.

"Our pubs have already made money this year," club treasurer Kim Notar said. "The turnout of students has been higher than last year."

This year there are 91 members in the club and students are still welcome to join. The club is for students of the Hotel and Restaurant Administration program.

This year's president is Charlotte Prevost.

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Foundation has fun raising funds

By JENNIFER HUGGINS
Staff Writer

Niagara College has reached 60.79 per cent of its fundraising goal of $200,000 for the new Hospitality and Tourism Centre, an unexpected delight for all involved.

A report from Charles Complin, executive director of the Niagara Foundation, the fundraising body at the college, shows $121,592.66 has been raised in contribution to the Hospitality Centre Campaign, 60.79 per cent of the targetted goal. Foster Zanutto, director of marketing at Niagara College, mentioned that $140,000 could be added to that total because of more recent donations from such companies as Molson's, Bright's Wines and expected income from other events such as another possible Seafood Extravaganza.

Full Force

It wasn't until three years ago that colleges and universities were allowed to do their own fundraising but since then, Niagara College has jumped into it full force.

Before the Ministry of Colleges and Universities changed their policy on fundraising, it was against the law to do any outside campaigning for money. Since 1986, the change has allowed for an amount equal to a certain percentage of the annual school budget to be raised through college fundraising activities.

Niagara College has its own fundraising body called the Niagara Foundation. Until the end of this month, the Foundation will be run by Mr. Complin, executive director, who came to the college on a volunteer basis last year as a retiree from a St. Catharines industry.

Mr. Zanutto said the first step in organizing the Foundation was to create a board of directors. The board of directors oversees the entire operation while under them are campaign committees. The committee in charge of raising money for the new Hospitality and Tourism Centre is headed by Emil Rinderlin, owner of Rinderlins restaurant in Welland. The heads of committees are people who are related to the kind of fundraising needed for a particular project.

Volunteers

The Foundation was incorporated and the search began for a volunteer to head up the fundraising. Mr. Zanutto said they looked for someone on a volunteer basis because, basically, they didn't have the money to pay someone to do the job.

Mr. Zanutto was given the job of researching other colleges to see what they were doing in the area of fundraising.

The Foundation took many routes to get the ball rolling. They began with an internal appeal to college personnel which brought in $6,300.

Other events such as the popular Seafood Extravaganza, Vintage Night and various raffles averaged $9,884.33.

The next step was a direct appeal to industry such as hotels, restaurants and travel agencies or anyone related to the tourism trade.

Several suppliers donated equipment which proved that contributions were not only money.

"We did not go directly to the public," Mr. Zanutto said, though he said the community supports the college because it is important to the economy. Regional government represents $12,500 of the goal of $200,000.

The next endeavor for the Niagara Foundation will be the soon-to-be renovated St. Catharines Campus but plans have not been made for specifics. Hans van der Slagt, vice-president of administration, has been looking at the use of the campus and knows what money is needed to make changes.

It is hoped that an alumni and retirees' association can be set up through the Foundation but Mr. Zanutto said, "Right now the answer is no."

There are some loose alumni associations in the Horticulture, Social Service Worker, Business and Nursing programs but nothing like Mr. Zanutto envisages.

Alumni

"We're running pretty thin in terms of human resources," he said. The Foundation hasn't got the human and financial resources to organize an alumni association even though Mr. Zanutto sees it as extremely valuable.

There would be a need for secretaries, computers and someone to run the daily affairs such as posting. It all comes down to money. For now, Mr. Zanutto said, "It's completely up in the air."

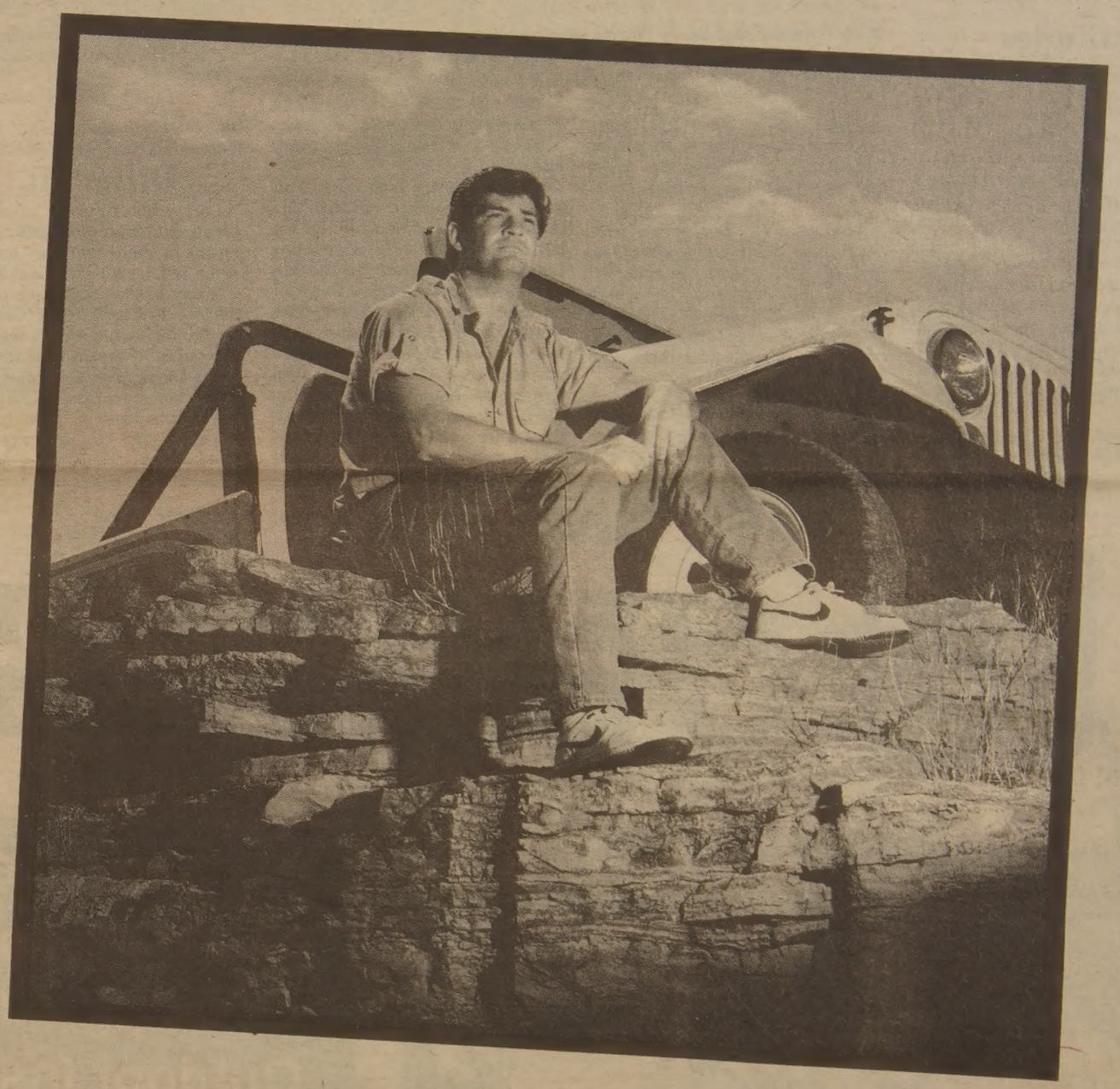
One of the fundraising vehicles for the Hospitality and Tourism Centre was the production and sale of a special wine, exclusive to Niagara College through Chateau des Charmes Wines. The 1987 Riesling/Sauvignon Blanc was destined for sale through finer restaurants in the Niagara Region but the sale of 110 of the 500 cases to the college personnel brought in $614.42. Mr. Zanutto wanted the staff to know that they expect to have more to offer for sale before Christmas. "Our people have supported us well and that speaks well of them," Mr. Zanutto said.

Even though the Hospitality and Tourism Centre was the first major project for the Foundation, there have been other small items before it.

Contributors

Mr. Zanutto said the Foundation is looking for a major contribution somewhere in the neighborhood of $50,000 and is "courting" some people but anyone with any ideas for possible contributors, should let him know. His office is on the upper level of the library in the Marketing and Information Services or at extension 774.

Although fundraising for colleges is a new concept, Mr. Zanutto said, "We must do fundraising. I don't think we have any choice."



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SETTING THE STANDARD

Students have A Good Hard Look as troupe rolls into Niagara College

By PAULA RITZ
Staff Writer

The gymnasium floor in the MacKenzie building was their stage; three chairs, a speaker and a black curtain wall were their props. Twenty-seven students, including seven who were special needs students, sat and had A Good Hard Look as the Rolling Thunder Theatrical Company performed at the college on Monday, Oct. 2.

The play, A Good Hard Look, stars Jim Crawford, whose cerebral palsy affects his speech and gait; Al Sunisloe, who has cerebral palsy too, but must use a speech board to communicate; Mark Wilson, who is in a wheelchair; Kirk Griesser and Larry Brown who alternate among able-bodied roles.

Kirk Griesser and Larry Brown display to the audience the attitudes society has towards the disabled as they play tug of war with Jim Crawford, who has cerebral palsy. Rolling Thunder performed A Good Hard Look in the MacKenzie gymnasium at Niagara College on Oct. 2.

Photo by Paula Ritz

Attitudes

The production shows the disableds' reactions to the attitudes healthy individuals have towards them. The group risks offending some of the audience by poking fun at both abled and disabled, demonstrating the tasks a handicapped person goes through in everyday life.

The Rolling Thunder Theatre Company received its name from the noise wheelachairs make as they wheel across the stage. It began its production with a blind comedian, Gordon Painter, who used "Second City style humor," Kirk said.

In the cast's five years of performing together, they have put on four plays: The Off Ramp, Given Half a Chance, Brothers, which they performed last year, and this year's production.

The troupe perform from September until June all over the United States and Canada. In their 10-month season, they usually put on 200 shows. Between June and September they rehearse a new play for their next tour.

Using caricature, the play focuses on people who believe handicapped people are helpless. However, Jim, Al and Mark make society's ignorance plain to the audience.

In one scene, a father and son (Larry and Kirk), discuss the father's first confrontation with a handicapped who wanted to know the time. The father told the son he was "overwhelmed with pity" for the disabled man. Soon afterwards, the two are brought face to face with not one, but three disabled men (Jim, Al and Mark), who follow close behind. Exaggerating the reactions of society somewhat, the father pulls out a gun. As the father and son leave, Jim shrugs his shoulders muttering, "I just wanted to know the time!"

Different

Larry, the director of all the plays, said all individuals are different in their own way and the same is true for the disabled.

Many of the company's performances are in schools. Children and young teenagers act the same as adults do except that they are more forward and to the point with their questions, Kirk said.

The purpose of their performances is to educate the uneducated.

Art show catches attention

Watercolors, by artist Linda Kemp can be viewed in the Hennepin Art Gallery until Oct. 28.

Picturesque colors, shapes, and designs are intertwined with beautiful florals in Watercolors, the show at the Hennepin Art Gallery until Oct. 28.

There is something to please everyone in this display. The Color of Summer, Colors up the Sunshine Hours, The Color of Summer 2 have a bold color theme that jumps out at the viewer.

The Crystal Garden collection, five in all, is reminiscent of summer months gone by.

There are unusual names for beautiful, interesting art: Ride a Little, Hide a Little; Imaginations Door, Zucchini Zoo.

The opening of Watercolors last Friday was well attended. Art students and other college students visit the gallery during regular hours, but most do not sigh the guest book. There are 23 works of art on display.

Watercolors can be viewed Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

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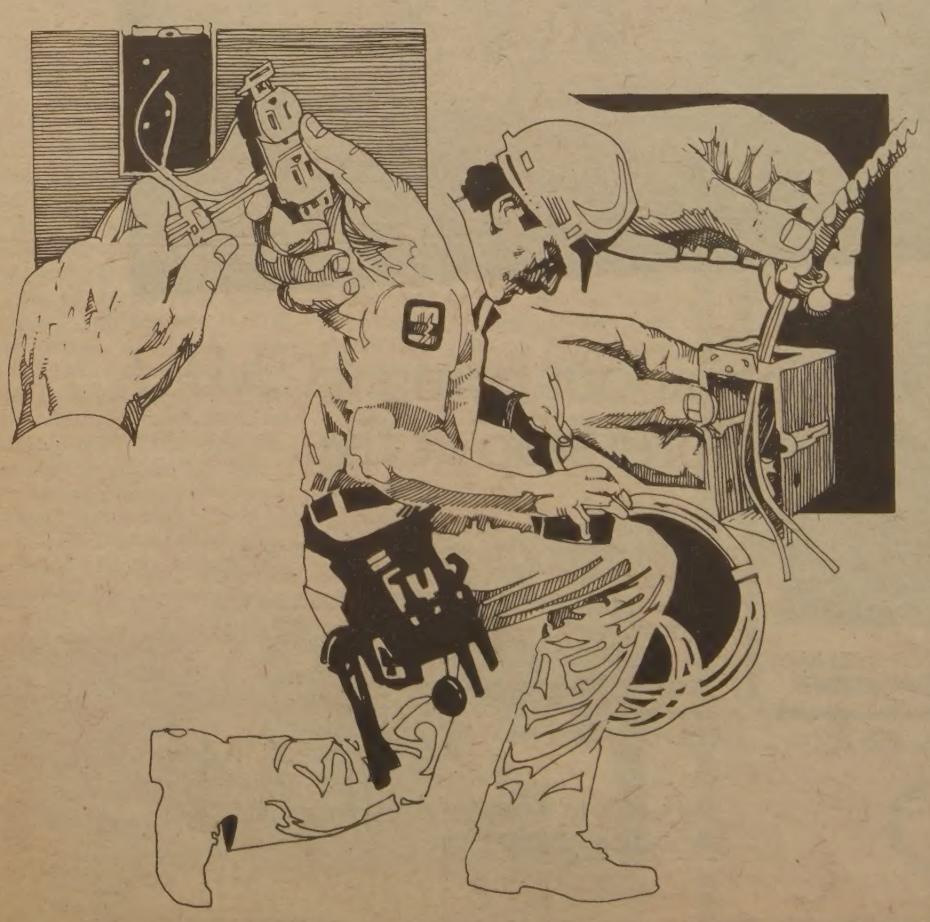

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Bank machine opens

Jacqueline Robarts, college president, accepts $50 from Ken Jensen, area Royal Bank manager, at the official opening of the bank machine last week in the college lounge. The money will be donated to the J. P. Robarts Scholarship Fund.

Photo by B. W. Culp

Fine Arts centre 'deplorable'

By LISA CHOMA
Staff Writer

The condition of the Fine Arts Facility on Empire Street is "deplorable" and "unsafe," Wayne McCreadie reported at Tuesday's College Council meeting.

"Other than a couple of wooden steps for portables, and getting the walls painted white in the studio, I was at a loss to see how the facility had been improved at all, or made safer," Tom Fraser, Council Chairman, said.

Jacqueline Robarts, college president, echoed Mr. Fraser's concern. She had been assured that the things that had to be done were going to be done and that she was just as disappointed.

Council moved last month for subcommittees to revisit the Empire Street campus and report on the progress of renovations that had not yet been done.

In a letter dated Sept. 22 addressed to Hans van der Slagt, vice-president of administration, the fine arts subcommittee urged him to assist it in completing its report by providing council with a detailed list of all work to be done. To date, there has been no reply, Sandy Fox, of the administrative staff, said.

After their visit, members of the subcommittee felt the conditions were somewhat inappropriate to be teaching in, and there was concern with regard to student safety and college liability, Mr. Fraser said.

Mr. McCreadie, a faculty member who is also on the health and safety subcommittee, toured the facility and refused to make a report due to its deplorable conditions.

There was a 45-gallon drum sitting in the middle of the hall which was being used to dispose of chemical waste material, and he indicated that the unsafe conditions stemmed from the people working there.

"It is sheer, goddamn stupidity that they haven't got the brains to pick it up and put it outside themselves," Mr. McCreadie said.

Ron Ireland, newly elected vice-chairman, said if a student is paying "tons" of money, he would expect the place to come up to par.

"There are laws for the safe disposal of waste, and something should be done about it," he said.

BEST EFFORTS

Mr. van der Slagt told Council that best efforts are being promoted to get the facility into reasonable shape.

"I do not want to leave Council with the impression that nothing has been done," he said.

He assured Council the board was working within the constraints of staff and budget and moved on the things they felt had to be done quickly.

"A lot of the buildings are quite old and need a lot of repair," Mr. van der Slagt said. "There are many things which are of immediate concern and we are trying to work with staff to identify some of these and respond to the best of our ability."

Ray Matthews, faculty member, said if it was going to cost a huge amount of money to get it (the facility) into correct working order, it would perhaps call into question the existence of that program.

"I wonder, Mr. van der Slagt, if the board was teetering on a decision to close the facility or move fine arts someplace else?" he asked.

NOT SURE

Mr. van der Slagt replied that the board is just not sure at this stage whether a viable investment is warranted until a full report is made by program staff.

The property has been leased to a church organization in the past and the next three-year lease is being delayed pending the result of the report by staff, and assessment of the facility.

He explained many of the problems requiring significant funds are of a renovation nature and would therefore be in the interest of leasehold improvements, and the college would be responsible for those.

Mr. Fraser said it was highly inappropriate to decide to hold a particular program at that campus many, many months ago, and not be prepared for the program come September, as was anticipated.

"My impression is that we are putting the whole campus in jeopardy just because we can't get around to cleaning it up," he said.

Workout raising funds for Heart research

The Aerobic Workout group is raising funds for the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario to conduct research and education programs.

Jan Potton, an aerobic instructor, said the group is selling raffle tickets and getting people to sponsor them for each hour of the three-hour exercise they will be doing on Oct. 19, in Fonthill.

Mrs. Potton said the group has distributed small white boxes across the college for people to put in the sponsorship money. She said the sponsors will get buttons from the foundation. Money raised will be used for research and education programs.

Research shows that one in two Canadians die from heart disease and stroke. Research and education can be the major solution to reducing this mortality, but the Foundation can only afford to fund half of the needed research and education programs with personal donations.

Mrs. Potton, a nurse by profession and a psychology teacher at Niagara College, said poor diet, smoking and lack of exercising contribute to heart disease and stroke.

She said it is important to educate people about better nutrition especially the young generation who grow up with fast food sold in restaurants.

"I think it's a hard habit to break," Mrs. Potton said. "When it starts happening to someone in your family, then you become scared."

She once recommended her students have their cholesterol level checked; their results showed high levels.

ISHM elections

Andy Condos has been elected president of the Niagara chapter of the International Society for Hybrid Microelectronics. Also selected to this year's executive were: Dinesh Patel, vice-president; Rich Visi, secretary, and Steve Wright, treasurer.

Highlights planned for the year include a possible exchange with Rochester Institute of Technology and the International Microelectronics Symposium in Baltimore, Oct. 24-26. The ISHM may hold a video pub night open to all students.

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Sports

Niagara's golf team is pictured here before they left for the OCAA golf championships in St. Thomas Oct. 4, 5 and 6. Team members are, from left to right, Norm Guay, Dave Morris, Peter Rylander, coach, Mike Gage and Jay Warren. The team placed eighth in the tournament.

Photo by Sheila McBrayne

NC golf team finishes eighth

Niagara College's golf team placed eighth in the OCAA golf championship held at the St. Thomas Golf and Country Club on Oct. 4, 5 and 6.

Niagara's golf team is Mike Gage, Norm Guay, Dave Morris, Jay Warren and Peter Rylander, coach. The team finished the tournament with a score of 712. There was a range of only 12 points between the second and eighth place teams. The tournament was at Fanshawe College.

Durham won the tournament with a 672-stroke score. Individual champions from the tournament were Ryan Hughes of Durham, John Harris, Sir Sanford Fleming and Pat Gavey, Mohawk.

Come 'steal-a-book', the crime that educates

Father Pig, Your Daughter Will Die, Monday The Rabbi Took Off and Echoes of Love — just a sample of the great books to be found stacked in a book rack beside the nearest vending machine.

There are racks on the college vocational floor, the business floor, and the applied arts floor.

"We encourage students to take a book and bring it back," Brian Green, general college teacher, said. Even if they do not return it that is all right as well.

"Read anything and everything, even the backs of cereal boxes." The purpose of "steal-a-book" is to get students reading.

The college receives its books from The Book Exchange on King Street in Welland. Sue Berg, owner of the store, donates the books.

"She's been very generous," said Mr. Green, who picks up the books from her second-hand book store when they become stacked in the small storage room.

About 10 or 12 years ago the English department set aside some money for this purpose and bought the books from second-hand stores.

Students vote on proposed time table changes

An attempt to find a solution to time tabling problems was initiated last week when students were asked for their suggestions.

The survey allowed students to vote on two possible schedules or the schedule that is already in existence. The new schedules would have 10-minute breaks between classes, and would start at either 8 a.m. or 8:30 a.m. Both new schedules would end later than the 4:40 p.m. last class on the present schedule.

"People have been having trouble getting from one class to the other," Bette Ferguson, director of student services, said. The problem is further compounded when students have to walk from one end of the campus to the other in only five minutes, she said. This does not allow students ample time to discuss problems at the end of class — a 10-minute break could.

"Students should have a say in what they want," Jacqueline Robarts, college president, said. The survey was recommended by the College Council to the president as a means of getting opinions from all students. Miss Robarts said students are the ones who will be the most affected; therefore, they should be the ones to vote on it.

Knights enter league to improve calibre

Niagara College's men's volleyball Knights are entering a new league called Region Three this weekend in London, where they will play seven other teams.

The Knights have been playing only in Ontario Colleges Athletic Association League. Ray Sarkis, the Knights' coach, said Region Three men's volleyball league will enable his players to have more experience because they will go on the court regularly.

"The main objective for entering this league is to improve our calibre so that the team can win the league," Mr. Sarkis said.

All games starting this Sunday will be played in London and the finals will be April 8. The four winning teams will compete for the championship.

Mr. Sarkis has doubts his teams will be among the top four despite the fact that he said he has a strong team. "It is going to be tough because the teams we are playing are strong."

This year's team consists of five players from last year's team and six others who played in high schools. Mr. Sarkis has high hopes that he will do well in the OCAA League because of the strong players.

"I feel we should do well this year; we should finish higher than we finished last year."

Hawkers awarded medals in slo-pitch championship

The Hawkers were awarded gold-covered medals after winning the Niagara College slo-pitch championship on Thursday, Oct.5.

The Hawkers defeated Staff 21-20 to win the championship in a tough game which could have gone either way. The Hawkers trailed Staff 7-5 in the first inning. Pat Ward scored the first run for the Hawkers followed by Chris Andrews' second run. Maria Topa scored the first run for staff and Jack Sibbert scored second while Sue Denbesten scored third.

Neither team could score in the third and top of the fourth innings. But the Hawkers tied the game 10-10 in the bottom of the fourth with Bill Newman scoring the 10th run.

Staff broke the tie in the fifth when they scored a run. Later in the inning the Hawkers registered four more runs to take a 14-11 lead.

Staff thought they were the victorious team with 20-14 lead in the seventh inning. But things did not turn out as they had expected when later the Hawkers pulled themselves together and scored seven more runs to become 1989-90 slo-pitch champions.

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Sports

Niagara's tennis team is pictured here at a practice before the OCAA tennis championship held Sept. 30 and Oct. 1. From left to right are Peter Rylander, coach, Sherry Cassibo, Ginette Thivierge, Nick Donawa, Rob Gula and Paul Viren. Harry Leavere was absent when the picture was taken.

Photo by Sheila McBrayne

Women's, men's tennis place third, fourth

Niagara's tennis teams placed third and fourth at the OCAA tennis championships held Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 at Mohawk College.

Niagara's women's team won the third place bronze medal and the men's team placed fourth in the tournament. Niagara's tennis team, coached by Peter Rylander, included Sherry Cassibo, Ginette Thivierge, Nick Donawa, Harry Leavere, Paul Viren and Rob Gula.

In the men's division, Seneca won the gold, Mohawk the silver, and Algonquin the bronze. In the women's division, Algonquin won the gold and Mohawk won the silver.

The men's team lost their first set to Mohawk, three games straight. Niagara and George Brown split their set, two games to one. Seneca and Algonquin both took three games straight. Niagara came back to win two games in their three-game set against St. Lawrence.

The women's team split their first two sets,(2-1 and 2-1), against Mohawk and Seneca. They swept St. Lawrence three games straight and ended with a two-game victory in their set with Algonquin.

'Dry' SAC pub Oct. 25

Under-aged students will be partying with the band Common Language in a non-alcoholic pub to be held Oct.25 in the cafeteria.

Cass Howorth, Student Administration Council vice-president for social affairs, said the band Common Language will play in the evening. At the pub, students can buy food, pop and mixed non-alcoholic drinks.

Cass said he received an unsigned letter in the SAC suggestion box complaining about unfair treatment of under-aged students. Although under-aged students pay the same tuition fee they do not enjoy the same privileges as other students. They are not able to buy tickets at the SAC office for pubs. Cass said before he received the letter, he was aware that many people were upset because they could not buy tickets to see musicians like David Wilcox.

Selling alcohol beverages to minors is a federal offence and SAC abides by the law. To be able to buy or drink alcohol in Ontario, one should be 19 or above.

Jim Acsai, SAC president, said although every student could be required to show ID when buying alcohol at pubs, it would not stop under age students from drinking. He said students who are 19 or above can still buy alcohol drinks for their under-aged friends.

Wrestling trip still on

Students interested in going on a pleasure trip to watch their wrestling favorites can still sign up at the SAC office for a trip to either Niagara Falls or Toronto Maple Leaf Gardens.

Marc Siqouin, Student Adminisrtative Council vice-president for athletics, said the wrestling trip is still on. Wrestling ads went up late last month to find out how many students were interested. The ad was supposed to be up for a week and if few people were interested the trip was to be cancelled.

The trip will be the first of its kind at the college. Only a bus load of people — about 45 — is needed to make the trip a success.

At press time no further details had been received.

Varsity hockey

Niagara defends title

The Niagara College varsity hockey team opens another season this weekend with two pre-season games against American rivals.

The opening game goes tonight with the Knights travelling to Wheatfield, N.Y., to take on the University of Buffalo at Sabreland. Tomorrow is their opener, which sees Buffalo State University coming to town for an 8 p.m. game at the Welland Arena.

The Knights then move on to Kitchener for a game with Conestoga College Wednesday.

Niagara is the defending league champion in the inter-collegiate hockey league and this year the squad hopes to add play-off honors to a succesful defence of their title.

Among those returning from last year's squad is centre James Ward and defenceman Ken Bilodeau. Mike Mooradian is back on left wing this season and is joined by a newcomer — his brother Dave — on the right side.

Admission is free for home games.

Less varsity interest in women's sports

By SHEILA McBRAYNE
Staff Writer

In the early years at the college, the women's basketball team won the OCAA championship two years straight; now there is no varsity basketball on campus. In 1988 the women's volleyball team placed second in the league of 15 teams; now there are just enough players to keep the team. "This year there just does'nt seem to be any interest," Judy Halaiko, women's volleyball coach, said.

The declining interest in the women's varsity sports is not an isolated problem, but rather is a concern for all the colleges and universities in Ontario. The Ontario Coalition of Women in Educational Athletics(OCWEA) is a two-year-old organization that has representatives from universities, colleges, high schools and elementary schools. "We have to be able to identify the problem first," Miss Halaiko, a member, said.

The organization traced the lack of interest at the post-secondary level back to the secondary level. "We want to build a network in the communication system with the three levels of education. We want to set up contacts with high school coaches so that the colleges can welcome new athletes," she said. By instilling the interest into girls when they are young, the group hopes that the interest will survive to the post-secondary level. "If we can get the interest while they're young, we can nurture it all along," Miss Halaiko said.

Women's intramural sports also reflect scont interest. "The only time we can get girls in intramurals is in co-ed slo-pitch," Peter Rylander, athletic director, said. "There were lots in co-ed slo-pitch; there were eight teams."

Another organisation that promotes women's sports is the Women in Sport Development Committee (WSDC). Each college sends a representative to the committee which meet four times a year. Miss Halaiko, Niagara's representative, said, "We want to bring out the existing interest that the girls have." The group produced a video tape, Women in Sports, that shows women's OCAA varsity sports and personal interviews with players. The athletic department of each college has a copy.

The problem is believed to have started at the secondary level where "girls lose female role models as coaches," Miss Haiko said. Girls get into high school and find a lot of male coaches. Because high school students are now only required to take one year of gym, they usuall drop it in Grade 10.

By training women how to be better certified to coach, the NCSW is "hoping for a snowball effect." "I've almost done my level three, so I could probably run a coaching clinic in my area," she said.

Miss Halaiko has seen a lot of progress in female coaching within the colleges. "It's reasuring to note that three years ago there were 10 teams in division two women's volleyball, with eight male coaches and two females. Now there are 15 teams with 11 female coaches and four males."

"Women are not dropping fitness, but instead they're taking up new activities," she said. "There is a big commitment involved in team sports; you have to work with other team members, whereas aerobics or running you can do by yourself."

Niagara's women volleyball team plays on weekends, not week days and practise three nights a week. "We've tried to accommodate students, but you have to keep some commitment or you might as well forget it."

"Academics is the number one priority at college, but I don't think that students realize that regardless of your marks, everyone receives the same diploma. When applying for a job, an employer looks at other activities as well. Varsity sports is an excellent reference," she said.

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Of days gone by...

As autumn moves on towards winter, this old barn on Vansickle Road near St. Catharines waits silently. Its weathered state whispers of the many winters it has already seen. Each winter now brings it that much closer to total desolation.

Photo by Virgil Klassen

From Page One

College in poor health

Rose, a council member, said.

Mr. van der Slagt said the college was looking into tightening up its internal procedures and he might possibly approach the college to approve the creation of a position of a health and safety officer. This might aid in reducing the college's claims experience.

The Council seeking insight into the board's rationalization behind its previous decision not to re-instate the nurse asked Ivar Noren, applied arts chairman, to comment. Mr. Noren represents the administrative staff associate on the board.

"It was felt that some employees of the college refused to post their (first aid) certificates until a nurse was hired and they (the board) felt that wasn't the right way of doing it," Mr. Noren said.

"This is purely a volunteer situation and you're suggesting that the board members felt because there were staff members who were not willing to step forward that we should not have a nurse?" Tom Fraser, counci chairman, said.

Mr. Noren said that although he could not account for every board member, he felt the predominant reason was that the board was udner the impression that first aid certificates previously posted had been withdrawn.

Council member Sandy Fox told Council that first aid certificates had been posted previously for night school.

"There were arguments presented to the board and I can remember the president herself said there is a need for a college nurse beyond the employees for students," Mr. Noren said. "At the time the board decided that the savings we could gain from this were more important and they cancelled it."

Mr. van der Slagt said that about 20 volunteers have taken the first aid certificate course and were issued their certificates last week. He hopes to encourage staff to volunteer to have their names and certificates posted at the first aid stations.

Mrs. Orr said she was told by a spokesman in the personnel office that the reason the college is having problems is because of the staff and the staff should realize that they should have enough concern for their fellow members and students to volunteer and put their names on the wall.

It is a moral responsibility of the staff to do this, she was told.

Enjoy the arts

Ralph Wall, president of the Association of Student Artists and Designers (ASAD), welcomes anyone interested in art to join this organization, which will meet the third week in October at the Empire Street campus.

Students from other programs and the general public are also very welcome to join ASAD, its president said. ASAD holds Win, Lose or Draw competitions, modeled after the television game show of the same name. Each team chips in $3; the winner gets a percentage of the total, and the rest goes toward refreshments. The group has also life drawing sessions Sundays, with a live model.

Classified

BOTTLING LINE WORKER, Niagara Falls Brewing Co., Lundy's Lane, N.F., 1-2 full days a week around your timetable, 8 a.m.-5p.m., $5 hourly. Call Wally Moroz, 374-1166 for interview appointment.

DESK ATTENDANT/ BARTENDER, Welland Indoor Tennis Club, 110 Niagara St., Welland. Work evenings and weekends; duties include reception, booking courts, tending bar; must be 18, have experience in handling cash. $5 hourly. Contact Joe Surtel, CEC, Welland, 735-3951 Ext. 131.

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Sexist language needs a woman's touch

By ALISON OLSEN
Staff Writer

Language is the exposed edge of thought. Language is a powerful tool. Language is sexist and is in need of change.

These ideas were expressed by Franca Moss, vice-principal at E.L. Crossley High School, Fonthill, speaking to the monthly Social Justice Committee meeting at the YWCA in Niagara Falls Sept. 27. The committee is an organization dedicated to improving the status of women in Canada.

Language is from the minds and mouths of male grammarians and thus, is "man-made." The Oxford dictionary is a classic example because it was written by Oxford males.

There are more positive words for males than females, Ms. Moss said. A dictionary defines the words spinster and bachelor as meaning unmarried. The two words mean the same but the connotations are different.

The word Sir deems respect, while the word Madame gives sexual inference. Stewardess and waitress imply lesser roles than steward and waiter.

BITCHY, BELITTLED

If a man is said to be aggressive he knows what he wants and how to get it. An aggressive woman is said to be a "pushy bitch."

"We are being belittled because of sex, regardless of intelligence or perspective on life," Ms. Moss said.

Nouns are the most difficult use of sexist language. Mailman, policeman and chairman are examples of biased language. Does this mean that a woman is not capable of doing the job?

Naming an individual accurately eliminates most sexist references. Use letter carrier, officer and chairperson for both men and women.

"Our language is reflective of our present social dvnamics." she said. "It reflects our hopes and dreams. If language is not redefined equally, women will continue to be subordinates in society."

She feels many textbooks are biased against women.

"Academic leaders have the responsibility to develop students who do not have limitations based on sex."

When a boy's name became popular for a girl, the male names lost their masculinity and were no longer used. Shirley, Evelyn, Leslie and Lyn were once popular names for boys. How many men namd Evelyn do you know?

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